

*Tennessee Environmental News*  
from the  
Tennessee Environmental Council

**May 2008**

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[www.letsogogreen.biz](http://www.letsogogreen.biz)

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***Important news:***

**Sneak Preview of Indiana Jones to Benefit TEC**

You are invited to join us on May 21 at 7:00 pm for an advance screening of the new movie: *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*. Carmike Cinemas Thoroughbred 20 in Cool Springs (633 Frazier Drive, Franklin) has graciously offered to benefit the Tennessee Environmental Council (TEC) by opening a 528 seat mega screen theater for a special showing of the newest installment in the Indiana Jones series. This movie opens in theaters everywhere on May 22, but TEC's friends and supporters will have an opportunity to enjoy this sneak preview. The cost of the tickets is only **\$10 per person**. All proceeds from this special event will go to support the mission and programs of the Tennessee Environmental Council.

Tickets will go on sale the night of the show at 6:00 pm on a first-come, first-serve basis, but you can reserve your seats ahead of time by calling 248-6500 or emailing [tec@tectn.org](mailto:tec@tectn.org). For more information, please go to [www.tectn.org](http://www.tectn.org) or call 615-248-6500. See you at the movies!

**2008 Green Tie Affair a Great Success!**

TEC's annual fundraiser, the Green Tie Affair, was held April 26<sup>th</sup> at City Hall Entertainment Center in Nashville. In addition to another successful silent and live auction this year, special guest Kathy Mattea delighted the more than 230 attendees with a private concert, and the band Delicious had everyone up and dancing. Thanks to the generosity of TEC's many friends and members, the event raised \$30,000 for much-needed program and restoration work.

**A Successful Day of Planting at the Arts Center of Cannon County**

On Saturday, March 22, more than 30 volunteers provided much-needed help at the Arts Center of Cannon

County stream bank restoration site. Together they rehabbed a small erosion gully, raked and seeded in native grasses, covered the slope with erosion control netting, and planted a variety of native plants. See the before and after pictures below.



### **TEC Aids Wolf River Conservancy in Reforestation Project.**

Almost 50 volunteers, including state Senator Mark Norris and Tennessee Environmental Council Executive Director John McFadden (bottom left photo), participated in restoring parts of the Wolf River's streamside forest on Saturday February 24th. The restoration event was coordinated by the Wolf River Conservancy (WRC) and co-sponsored by the Tennessee Environmental Council and the Little Garden Club. TEC, through a river restoration grant from the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, was able to help the WRC purchase 3,000 native seedlings to plant in areas that had been cleared as a part of restoration work done by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Planting trees in and maintaining native forests along rivers is absolutely one of the single most important things TEC and WRC can do to make Tennessee Sustainable. These streamside areas are known for higher levels of biodiversity and ecological processes. High levels of biodiversity mean that these areas are producing clean water for drinking and recreating as well as fish and wildlife habitat. Healthy stream sides increase our overall quality of life.



### **Farmland Preservation and Whooping Cranes Meet in Bell's Bend**

In March the New York Times did a feature story on a farm in Bell's Bend, just outside of Nashville. The farm, owned by George West, is facing development pressures and Mr. West has been considering his options for how he might be able to preserve his farm for the future. Then this winter birdwatchers spotted something interesting on Mr. West's farm – two endangered whooping cranes. The cranes are part of an initiative to reestablish the population between Wisconsin and Central Florida. Barry Sulkin, one of TEC's board members and advocate for preserving the Bell's Bend area is quoted in the article. [Click here](#) to read more.

### **Nashville, Chattanooga and Mountains Join Knoxville as Regions Identified as Having Unhealthy Air, Says EPA**

*From the Southern Environmental Law Center*

Under new ozone standards released today by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Nashville, Chattanooga and various mountain cities will join metro Knoxville on the list of cities with unhealthy levels of ozone. The new standards go further to protect the public's health from ozone pollution, but fall short of the

recommendations of public health professionals and EPA's own scientists which recommended stronger protections. [Click here](#) to read the entire article.

### **Link Between Smog/Ozone and Premature Deaths**

*From ScienceDaily*

Short-term exposure to current levels of ozone in many areas is likely to contribute to premature deaths, says a new National Research Council report, which adds that the evidence is strong enough that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency should include ozone-related mortality in health-benefit analyses related to future ozone standards. [Click here](#) to read the entire article.

### **Governor's Task Force in Energy Policy**

On March 19, Governor Phil Bredesen signed an Executive Order establishing the Governor's Task Force on Energy Policy. The Task Force is charged with developing a state energy plan to make Tennessee a leader in energy efficiency and conservation, use of alternative fuels and renewable energy sources, and the development of clean-energy technology. In developing the plan, the Executive Order charges the Task Force with identifying:

- Opportunities for state government to lead by example in energy efficiency and conservation, with an emphasis on building construction and management and vehicle fleet management
- Prospective policies, legislation, regulations or incentives to encourage statewide energy efficiency and conservation in the public and private sectors
- Possible public-private partnerships and collaborations to encourage research and development of clean-energy technology and increase economic development potential in the state's energy sector
- Strategies for expanding the use of alternative fuels and renewable energy sources to support the sustainability of Tennessee's environment

[Click here](#) for more information.

### **Scouts Re-plant Cathey Farm in Dickson**

*By Michael Cain, Tennessee Environmental Council*



The Cathey Farm outside of Dickson is a beautiful pastoral farm along the Piney River and Willow Branch just south of town. Last year Tennessee Environmental Council sponsored a tree planting to help stabilize banks that had been repaired by NRCS after extensive erosion. Unfortunately, between the late hard freeze and the drought last year, we expected that almost all of the trees and shrubs we had planted had not survived. So a replanting event was planned for April 12<sup>th</sup> of this year. [Click here](#) to read the entire article.

### **EVENTS:**

**May 21      Movie Night with TEC & Indiana Jones!**

Join TEC for an advance screening of the new movie, *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*, on May 21 at 7:00pm at Carmike Cinemas Thoroughbred 20 in Cool Springs (Franklin). Tickets are \$10/person and can be reserved in advance by contacting our office: 615-248-6500 or [tec@tectn.org](mailto:tec@tectn.org). All proceeds go to TEC. Visit [www.tectn.org](http://www.tectn.org) for more information.

**May 31      Richland Creek Clean-up**

Huge clean-up opportunity at Richland Creek / Charlotte area from 10am – 2pm (CDT). To sign up or for more information go to [www.richlandcreekwatershedalliance.org](http://www.richlandcreekwatershedalliance.org) or [rcwa@comcast.net](mailto:rcwa@comcast.net)

**June 12      Regional Opportunity Forum**

Take the opportunity to learn and share ideas for building a sustainable Tennessee from 1:00 – 8:00pm at the Warehouse Row Atrium in downtown Chattanooga. Registration is \$25. Make your reservation today by contacting TEC at 615-248-6500 or [tec@tectn.org](mailto:tec@tectn.org).

***Take Action:***

**Support TEC with LetsGoGreen!**

TEC is happy to introduce a new fundraising tool to you and we think you're going to like it: [letsgogreen.biz](http://letsgogreen.biz) is an online company selling "green" products such as recycled paper products, eco-friendly cleaning materials, CFLs and water saving faucets, toilet banks etc. All items are eco-friendly and designed to either help save resources, money, or both. All you have to do is visit [www.LetsGoGreen.biz](http://www.LetsGoGreen.biz), choose your products, and specify TEC at checkout so we can get credit. It couldn't be simpler. Please give it a try! Best of all, **TEC earns 25% of every dollar**, so your contribution can be substantial. Thanks for supporting TEC and please feel free to visit the site again and again as we will continue to get credit for all ongoing purchases.

**Join TEC Today**

Call Melissa at 615-248-6500 to get your membership packet or check us out on the web at <http://www.tectn.org>.

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*The Tennessee Environmental Council is a 501 (c) (3) conservation organization whose mission is to educate and advocate for conservation and improvement of Tennessee's environment, communities, and public health.*

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